

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Thawley, Joseph & Lucinda, House

other names/site number 095-007-01003

2. Location

street & number 300 East North Main Street N/A ☐ not for publication

city or town Summitville N/A ☐ vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Madison code IN zip code 46070

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- ☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet

- ☐ determined eligible for the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet

- ☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

- ☐ removed from the National Register.

- ☐ other, (explain:)

Joseph & Lucinda Thawley House
Name of Property

Madison County, IN
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-state
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne
OTHER: Free Classic

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: limestone
walls WOOD: weatherboard
WOOD: shingle
roof ASPHALT
other BRICK

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more sheets.)

Joseph & Lucinda Thawley House

Name of Property

Madison County, IN

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significant within the past 50 years.

Areas of significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1895

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Callin, A.C.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination if individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Joseph & Lucinda Thawley House
Name of Property

Madison County, IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	6
---	---

6	1	5	2	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	4	6	6	1	7	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

3

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

2

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

4

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Virginia M. Smith / Paul C. Diebold

organization Ball State University/ARCH 545 date March 31, 2009

street & number 405 S. Morrison Rd. #171 telephone 618-553-6463

city or town Muncie state IN zip code 47304

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 Or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Virginia Sue (Allen) Shields

street & number 300 East North Main Street telephone 765-536-2372

city or town Summitville state IN zip code 46070

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance to the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

J.B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

Section 7 – Description

The J.B. & Lucinda Thawley House is located in a residential neighborhood of late 19th and early 20th century frame houses on the north side of Summitville, Madison County, Indiana. Constructed in 1894-1895 for the Joseph B. and Lucinda (Williams) Thawley family, the house stands on a knoll on the corner of East North Main Street and East Washington Street. The Thawley House is a two-and-a-half story frame structure with a steep and complex gable roofline. Its style incorporates a variety of massing, building materials and textures alluding to the Late Victorian Queen Anne style. A few simple touches from Classical architecture, such as the use of Tuscan order columns for the porch, relate to variant of Queen Anne called “Free Classic.” The degree of preservation of the house is remarkable; it retains original wood siding, exterior moldings, wood window sash, and imbricated wood shingles in gable ends. The only notable changes include the removal of a side entry porch, replacement of the roofing several times, and installation of storm doors. The interior likewise features original floor plan, stained wood moldings, plaster walls, and wood floors. The architect is thought to have been A. C. Callin; original specifications and drawings survive.

Site Description

The site is a gently rolling, elongated rectangular lot that is elevated above street level. Four old growth trees stand on the Thawley House lot. Masonry capped red bricked walls act as retaining walls on the south and on the west, both sides interrupted only with broad masonry steps. Old photos dating prior to 1946 indicate that the original walls were concrete block. From this and other evidence, it can be said that the current retaining wall was installed more than fifty years ago. The east leg of the south wall fell after a January 2005 ice storm dislodged the wall. It was rebuilt to match the west leg of the south wall. Modern amenities surround this historic structure. Paved roadways are located to the south (East Washington) and to the west (East North Main Street) of the lot. Modern concrete sidewalks line the south and west edges of the site. Historic features also surround the site. Downtown Summitville, roughly two blocks of c.1890-c.1920 brick one and two story commercial buildings, is a block south/southwest of the Thawley House. The tracks of the first railroad to Summitville (1875) run north-south less than one block west of the house.

Common Construction Details – exterior

The foundation of the house consists of coursed rock-faced limestone ashlar laid with four courses showing above grade. All siding and moldings are wood, believed to be Hemlock

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

J.B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

(as stated in the specifications). The siding is horizontal cut and beveled clapboard. The top of the second story of the house has a fluted frieze, (approx. 2" x 3") on all elevations. It runs equidistant from the roofline as a band and appears to be more apparent just beneath the gable ends, since the open eaves of the house shadow this belt elsewhere along the roofline. Diagonally cut flush siding forms a narrow belt above this fluted frieze or molding, beneath the imbricated fish scale shingles filling in the gable ends.

The two west and one south gable ends have wooden shingles in two patterns: round butt end and scalloped butt end, typically laid in alternating courses of two round, two scalloped. Gable ends are also trimmed in a plain entablature similar to the simple classical porch entablature, with plain boards forming the friezes.

The cold frame, or opening casings, into which the windows and doors are set, are double-studded on each side and have structural headers and sills. All corners were built of three studding well spiked together (per original specifications). Carpenters placed wood blocks at angles of openings to receive nails holding the exterior surround trim.

Door and window openings are trimmed in plain boards and an angled sill. On the first floor, openings have an entablature header, with a plain board forming a frieze, an s-profiled molding capping the frieze, and a thin trim piece serving as cornice/drip cap. Openings on the second floor lack the entablature effect since headers directly abut the aforementioned diagonal board running frieze at that level. All window sash are original wood double hung one-over-one units.

Doors are likewise original to the house. The Thawley House has five exterior doors, with original moldings as described above. The wood doors each have six recessed panels and a half-length light in the upper section. Beneath the half-light, each door features an entablature-like molding, and each door panel has beveled margins and a raised center section. Several doorways have stained wood storm doors with multi-light glazing; these may date to about 1930. Some back and side doorways have recent white finished storm doors with screen/window unit in the upper half. The four exterior doors on the first floor have plain rectangular transoms divided from the door by a plain bar. The sole door on the second floor, which leads to a porch roof which once had a railing, lacks the transom but is otherwise identical. All doors have original bronze mortise locks and butts.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

J.B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

Exterior Description

The Thawley House consists of a two-story cubical core with asymmetrically placed gabled projections on the three main elevations. The main roof is a steeply pitched gable-on-hip roof, with the pitch of the gabled roofs matching the angle of the main hip roof. The rear of the house has a one – one-and-one-half story hip roofed service wing abutting the two story core of the house.

The main (west) façade of the home (photo 1) is accessed by concrete steps rising up from street level to foundation level. The house rises from a quarried stone foundation four courses tall. The façade is organized into three dominant features: the northern two-thirds is a two story gabled section that projects about two feet forward from the main block of the house. The southern one-third is the main block of the house and houses a primary entrance on the first floor. The other primary element of the west elevation is the wrap-around porch. The west-facing primary entrance is sheltered by a simple, flat-roofed, wooden porch which wraps around to the south elevation. This porch sits on a nine course brick foundation with a running bond pattern and is accessed by concrete steps on both the west and south sides. It is supported by original wooden Tuscan columns and has no railing, though originally, it did (photo 2). A plain entablature with frieze and simple deep wooden cornice caps the porch. Straight above the main entrance, which is located toward the inside corner, where the two main elevation sections come together, is another half light, six panel wooden door. This door has no transom and leads to the porch roof. Historic photographs show that the porch roof had a railing at one time, but has been removed. The gabled projection to the north has a large double hung window centered on the first floor. A smaller window is aligned above it on the second floor. The gable end is finished as previously described, and the lofty gable-on-hip roof caps the other section. The diminutive gable at the apex of the house is finished like the other gables. The house's eaves are open and soffits are finished with flush boards.

The south elevation is secondary in visual importance, it faces toward a side street. Again the core of the house anchors the west portion of this elevation. Next to the east is the two story gabled section, which projects forward about four feet, and at its east corner, it forms the rear wall of the core of the house. The one story rear section follows to the east of the tall gabled portion. Following the porch south along the exterior, it turns to the east past a high-set single diamond shaped window (photo 3). Set in the corner formed by the projecting gabled section on this elevation is a secondary entrance under the porch. It faces west, and consists of a transomed

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

J.B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

door which leads into the main living room. To the right are concrete steps which lead down to the yard. The second floor of this portion of the house has a window facing south, placed right of center within this wall section. The projecting gable repeats the pattern of the front gable; one large window centered on the first floor and a smaller window above it.

The second story does not continue east beyond this point, with the exception of the east gable at the rear of the house. To the east of the first floor window is a set of concrete steps leading up to another exterior entrance. This entrance sits on a concrete slab lined with bricks, which was once the foundation for another smaller porch which has since been removed. To the east of the door is another original wooden one-over-one double hung window. This entrance is accessed by a concrete sidewalk and concrete masonry stairs from street level on East Washington Street.

The north elevation is the third most visible side of the house. Toward the front (west), the wall section has a single larger window on the first floor and a smaller unit aligned above it. The offset gabled section on this elevation also projects forward several feet from the core of the house. Its openings and finish match the other gables, except that it lacks the fishscale shingles and has clapboard siding instead. The one story kitchen wing follows to the east. Its north elevation contains a small fixed single pane square window centered on the rear shed roofed section's wall (photo 6). There are two original wooden one-over-one double hung windows to the west of the rear porch on this one story section. This taller portion of the rear wing of the house has a gable-on-hip roof.

The east elevation's entrance (photo 5) is located on the northern edge of this façade. Two concrete steps lead to a small shed roofed hood and shed roofed rear section lined with original small fixed single pane square windows. South of the porch, on the main core of the house, is an original one-over-one double hung window. Centered in the gable on the east façade on the scant second story is a small fixed single pane rectangular window.

The original roofing of the house consisted of cedar shakes. The current roofing material is a modern Art Loc ® asphalt shingle which is specifically designed to cover the cedar shakes. Modern aluminum guttering runs along all four of the exterior elevations.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

J.B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

Interior Description

The interior has ten foot high ceilings throughout the house. The original red oak/pine finish on the eight foot doors and all wood trim, including baseboards as well as door and window framing, is used extensively throughout the home. All first floor interior doors are the original five-panel wooden doors and all second story interior doors are the original four-panel wooden doors. The tongue and groove floors throughout are of pine except for the kitchen which is maple. Simple plaster ceilings are found throughout the house. Six inch tall original red oak baseboards, with top trim and shoe molding, are found throughout the house. The first floor and staircase wall covering, with the exception of the kitchen, appears to be patterned historic wallpaper. The kitchen is painted yellow. The second floor wall covering, starting at the top of the staircase is simple white paint.

The first floor plan is rectangular in shape. The formal entrance hall is located in the center of the west exterior wall. At the opposite end of the entrance hall is a door which leads to the main living room (photo 7). To the south of this doorway, behind another door, is a cloak closet tucked underneath the main staircase. In the center of the north wall of the entrance hall, through a door is a large rectangular parlor room with a large window centered on the west wall and a same height but narrower window centered on the north wall (photo 8).

A door from the front parlor leads to the main living room (photo 9). The northeast corner of the living room has an original cast iron fireplace, labeled "Old Majestic," set into the wall at an angle (photo 10). It is flanked by wooden Ionic columns and has a wooden mantle. A simple wooden bracket supports each end of the mantle. The stove surround consists of 1/2" x 6" glazed multicolored ceramic tiles. The hearth is made of the same tiles. A beveled rectangular mirror is permanently situated above the mantelpiece. The south wall has a single one-over-one double hung window centered on the wall. This room has five separate entrances. On the west wall, there is a door from the first parlor, one from the main entrance hall and one with a transom from the front exterior porch. The north wall has an original five-panel door to the second parlor. The east wall has a four foot wide archway with a decorative crown which leads to the dining room.

The second parlor may have also been used as a bedroom on the first floor (photo 11). It contains a single window centered on the north wall. The closet in the southeast corner of this

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

J.B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

room was converted into a small bathroom with only a toilet. On the south wall of this room in a door which leads into the main living room.

The dining room (photo 12) is a rectangular room at the southeast corner of the house. The west end of the south wall contains an exterior door and a single one-over-one double hung window is centered on the remaining portion of the wall. The east wall contains an identical window centered along the wall. On the north wall is a door leading to the kitchen. The west wall of the kitchen has an original built-in floor-to-ceiling cabinet made of red oak/pine (photo 13). It consists of both cabinets and drawers. Two cabinet doors above the countertop each have two opaque glass inserts. There is also a cast iron sink with separate spigots for hot and cold water still in use today. Two matching original one-over-one double hung windows are placed equidistant in the north wall. The door on the west wall. It is identical to the other first floor exterior doors and opens to the enclosed back porch. Both the kitchen and enclosed back porch have original maple flooring covered with linoleum. To the south of the door, a door to the cellar is part of the floor. The cellar door swings upward on a pulley towards the kitchen with metal hinges and handle and is surrounded by a wooden railing (photo 14). In the center of both the north and south walls of the back porch is a single fixed single pane wooden square window which dates to the time of the porch addition. The east wall of the porch has an exterior door and three identical square windows also of the same period.

South of the main entrance stands the only staircase. The red oak staircase rises along the south wall of the hall. There are 16 stairs total, beginning with the to the south (2 stairs) with the second larger than the other to form a 3' square landing; and east (11 stairs), the 11th being larger than the others to form a 3' square landing and north (3 stairs) where there is an irregularly shaped 2nd story landing. The staircase features turned spindles and square beveled newel posts (photo 15). The stairs are naturally lit by a diamond shaped window with clear glass located halfway up the stairs and a one-over-one double hung window with clear glass located at the landing at the top of the staircase. The stairs are lined with modern carpeting. The top newel post appears to be an enlarged version of the turned spindles.

At the top of the staircase is an irregularly shaped landing. At the top of the stairs, to the left is a hall, with a railing to the south and wall to the north, which ends in the exterior door to the porch roof (photo 16). To the left of that door is a small closet. Along the north wall of the hallway is an original gas light (photo 17). There are three doors at the opposite end of the landing (photo 18).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

J.B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

The first to the left leads to the front bedroom (photo 19). This space has two windows. One is centered on the north wall and one centered on the west wall. There is no closet in this space. On the south wall is a gas light. At each corner, just above the baseboard is an exaggerated ogee molding (photo 20).

The next door, moving in a clockwise direction, leads to the houses only bathroom. This room appears to have once been an additional bedroom (photo 21). It is a large space with the tub, sink, and toilet all on the north wall. The rooms' only window is centered on the north wall between the tub and the sink. Along the east wall is an exposed hot water heater. A door tucked into the southeast portion of the east wall leads to a walk-in storage / attic space, which is the interior space of the smaller east gable over the kitchen / dining area. The walls rise at an angle from the north and from the south. The interior of this space is completely finished with original narrow gauge, knotty pine tongue-and-groove wood (photo 22). One small rectangular pane window with clear glass is situated in its east wall. The tongue-and-groove pine floor has a heavy, patterned linoleum rug covering.

Back onto the landing, the remaining door sits on an angled wall facing the southeast corner of the house. This is the second bedroom on the house (photo 23). There is a window in the corner of the west wall. Another window is centered along the south wall. The north wall contains a four-panel wood door leading to a closet. To the right of this closet door is another gas light. At each corner, just above the baseboard is the same ogee molding as in the front bedroom.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

Section 8 – Statement of Significance

The Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House meets National Register criterion C, because it is a locally outstanding example of Late Victorian Queen Anne, a picturesque residential architectural style which was popular between 1885 and 1910 in Central Indiana. The Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House has retained nearly all of its historical integrity since its construction in 1895 and is an excellent example of the homes built at the turn-of-the-century in the town of Summitville. The Madison County Interim Report lists three Queen Anne farmhouses from the same time period in Van Buren Township. There are a few comparable houses in the vicinity, but none with such a high degree of integrity. The Thawley Home has remained within ownership of the family since its construction; this in large part explains its remarkable degree of preservation. J.B. and Lucinda Thawley were the first owners. J.B. Thawley owned a grocery store in Summitville, his wife, Lucinda, helped operate the business and had a career as a photographer and artist.

Summitville, the Gas Boom, and the Thawleys

Summitville was laid out in 1867 by Aaron M. Williams, on a section of his farm.¹ The town is located a little west of the center of Van Buren township, seventeen miles north of Anderson. Summitville was originally called "Skipperville," but was renamed for its locality to the county's highest elevation.² The Cincinnati, Wabash & Michigan Railroad (later known as the Big Four Railroad) was built through this town in 1875, affording an outlet for the vast amount of local farm produce that had to be hauled to Anderson or Muncie.³ The addition of the railroad was the first real construction boom for this little town, bringing in several new business enterprises. The railroads helped the town grow enough that in December of 1881, Summitville was incorporated by order of the board of county commissioners.⁴ The railroad tracks are located just west of East North Main Street from the Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley house is located.

The discovery of natural gas in 1887 was Summitville's second economic boom. In a short time after the first gas well was drilled, many new industries were attracted to the area due

¹ T. B. Helm, *Combined 1880 History of Madison County, Indiana and 1901 Atlas and Directory*. Chicago, IL: Kingman Bros., 1880. p. 120.

² Dyson L. Forkner, *History of Madison County, Vol. I*. Chicago & New York: Lewis Publishing Co., 1914. p. 126.

³ Helm, p. 120.

⁴ Forkner, p. 126.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

to the cheap cost of fuel. Among the first to come were the five glass industries; the Central Glass Company, the Model Glass Company, Crystal Window Glass Company, Rothschild Glass Company and American Flint Bottle Company. This discovery also attracted the Summitville Tile Works.⁵ Within a few short years, East Central Indiana became a significant center of heavy industrial production within the United States.⁶ Nearby county seat market towns like Muncie, Anderson, Kokomo, and Marion attracted larger companies, such as the Ball Brothers' Muncie plant. But small rail towns like Alexandria, Gas City and Summitville prospered; they had the two necessary ingredients: access to natural gas and access to a major rail line.

The area continued to grow during and after the gas boom as more people flocked to take advantage of the new found energy. By 1900, Summitville's population had reached 1,432 persons; this would prove to be the high point of the town's growth. Though 19th century engineers understood how to drill for gas and pipe it to a distribution system, no technology existed to store a supply, nor were well owners likely to develop such capability. The supply seemed endless, so far as the public could tell. Gas was wasted in massive volumes; industries often kept furnaces burning whether manufacturing demand called for it or not. Cities and companies organized dramatic flambeaux, or open burnings, of gas to light downtowns or simply to show off this new found power source. State geologists repeatedly warned citizens about the waste. Eliminating wasteful practices and capping wells could preserve some of the fuel. In 1891, the Indiana General Assembly passed legislation banning flambeaux in response to experts who warned of declining pressure at wells, but it was to little avail.⁷ Most easily reached wells had been exhausted by 1901. Some industries were able to convert to manufactured gas (produced from coal, abundant in southwest Indiana), but many closed their doors. In subsequent decades of the 20th century, the population of Summitville slowly decreased to just under 1,000, finally stabilizing at just over 1,000 in the 1970s through the year 2000.

The Gas Boom aided merchants as well as industry. With the dramatic rise in population, established merchants were in a position to reap unforeseen profits. Joseph B. Thawley was one

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ John O. Hardesty, *The City of Anderson, Indiana, Illustrated* (Anderson, IN: The Benham Printery, 1900), 1-5, reprinted (Mt. Vernon, IN: Windmill Publications, Inc., 1990), Madison County Historical Society, Anderson, Indiana; "The Anderson Historic West 8th Street Walking Tour" brochure, vertical file 18-3 "Historic 8th St.", Indiana Room, Anderson Public Library, Anderson, Indiana.

⁷ James A. Glass and David Kohrman, *The Gas Boom in East Central Indiana* (Images of America series), Chicago: Arcadia Publishing, 2005, p. 91. Also see James A. Glass, "The Gas Boom in East Central Indiana," *Indiana Magazine of History*, Vol. XCVI, No. 4, December, 2000, p. 331.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

such merchant in Summitville. He was born in Delaware on March 28, 1861, but moved to Indiana from Maryland in 1880. His marriage to Lucinda Williams could have provided status and access to wealth. Born November 15, 1855, Lucinda was the daughter of Aaron M. and Matilda Williams; the two were early settlers to Van Buren Township, arriving in the 1840s. They built and owned the first store, saw mill, grain mill and tannery in would-be Summitville. Williams had platted Summitville in 1867 from portions of his own farm.⁸

J.B. and Lucinda married in 1884, according to entries in the Thawley family bible. The Thawleys accumulated considerable property in the area.⁹ The Thawleys operated a store on North Main Street, advertised as "J.B. Thawley Groceries & Provisions, Cigars and Tobaccos."¹⁰ Edgar Cartwright, who later partnered with J.B., placed an ad in the same yearbook: "Coal, Lime, Portland cement, Pumps & Well Supplies and Foundation Materials." In addition to his business activities, Joseph served on the Summitville Town Council.¹¹

Lucinda helped J.B. operate the store. She was a mother of three children. One, a daughter, died as an infant in 1892. A son, Chauncy Edwin, born 1889, became a machinist and moved to Florida. He was still a young man, when, in 1928, he died of complications from an accident. Mrs. Thawley's many talents included her pursuit of photography. Lucinda utilized tintype and other photo processes. A photo of her box camera is among her collection of portrait albums of both the Williams and Thawley families. Lucinda was also an artist; she painted local scenes such as the grain elevator, Big Four Train Depot, and interurban depot in Summitville. The train depots were within sight of her house. She also painted rural scenes reflecting the tranquility of rural north-central Indiana. The arts rubbed off on the Thawley children. Chauncy dabbled in cartoons. Ina Bernice (Thawley) Surratt also continued her mother's lead, becoming an artist.

Both Thawleys were active in the Summitville Christian Church, located a short walk from their home. Lucinda was a charter member of the "Heritage of Women in Mission" group in 1902. The church had upwards of 300 members in the late 1890s and was a vital community

⁸ Helm, p. 120.

⁹ *Summitville Sun*, Vol. XIII, no. 26, May 12, 1932, p. 26. Not surprisingly, the Thawley House is located on lot 1 of Aaron M. Williams' Homestead Addition of 1887. When Aaron Williams died in 1889, Lucinda inherited a portion of the family property.

¹⁰ 1905 Summitville High School Yearbook, advertisements, collection of Virginia Allen Shields.

¹¹ "Thawley Rites at Summitville Tuesday at 2," unknown paper clipping.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

center throughout the early 1900s. J.B. served as trustee and later, in the 1920s and in the early 1930s, as custodian.

Joseph & Lucinda's daughter, Ina B. Thawley was the next owner of the home. She was born in June of 1886. She lived there until 1921 when she was married to Charles B. Surratt of Terre Haute, Indiana. She returned to the house in 1933 after her father's death. She lived there until her death in 1973. The house was then passed on to Martha Bernice Surratt, Ina's daughter. In 2005, Martha Surratt sold the house to the current owner, Virginia (Allen) Shields, the great-granddaughter of Joseph and Lucinda. Therefore, from the time of its construction, the Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House has remained within the family. This is much of the reason for its high level of integrity.

Brief History of Queen Anne Architecture

The Victorian era of American architecture ranged from about 1860 to 1900. It came about with a period of rapid industrialization and the growth of the railroad. This era led to a dramatic change in American house design and construction. Balloon framing was rapidly replacing heavy timber construction allowing for more intricate house shapes and floor plans.

Growing industrialization also allowed for mass production of complex house components. By the 1890s, lumber mills offered stock moldings and turnings with elaborate profiles. The Victorian builders clearly reflect the influence of these changes through their flamboyant use of intricate shapes and elaborate detailing, which had previously only been available to wealthy patrons. Industrialization also brought relatively inexpensive periodical literature to the masses. For builders, this meant unprecedented access to, and influence from, images of popular architectural styles.

The Queen Anne style was popular from 1885-1910. Though English proponents like Richard Norman Shaw first revived the late Gothic/early Renaissance architecture of Great Britain in the late 1860s, most authors consider the construction of several British government pavilions at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition of 1876 as the first major introduction of the style to the United States.¹² American builders and architects quickly learned that replacing the typical British-style cladding, terra cotta tile, with wood allowed much lower building costs and remarkable freedom of expression. Furthermore, mechanized woodworking equipment such as

¹² Whiffen, p. 117.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

lathes meant that spindles, posts, and grilles could be created with a profusion of bobbin-like turnings both quickly and cheaply. The Queen Anne style was almost exclusively suited to residential construction. Toward the end of popularity of the Queen Anne mode in the United States, many home builders sought to simplify their Queen Anne designs by substituting classical elements that eliminated some of the visual clutter inherent in the style. This substyle is usually called "Free Classic," after Richard Norman Shaw's use of the term to describe his 1870s variations on Queen Anne that included references to English Early Renaissance classicism.

The typical roof shape of the Queen Anne style consists of a steep pitch and an irregular shape, usually with a predominant front-facing gable. Patterned shingles, cutaway bay windows and other devices are used to avoid a smooth-walled appearance. Another characteristic is an asymmetrical façade with a partial or full-width porch, usually one story high, which extends along one or both side walls.¹³ The Thawley House has all these major characteristics of the Queen Anne style. The gable-on-hip roof, in plan, has gables projecting outward pinwheel-style in plan, again, a characteristic feature of Queen Anne houses.¹⁴ The builder's use of imbricated wood shingles in the gable ends provides a rich surface texture. The Thawley House design reflects the later Queen Anne period, with its simple friezes and classical-inspired porch. The Thawleys also eschewed another Victorian/Queen Anne trend: this house has always been painted white rather than the often elaborate color schemes many architects and pattern books recommended at the time.

The Thawleys hired A.C. Callin to design their house. The owner retains the original plans and specifications for the house. Unfortunately, no further information is forthcoming about Callin or his career. Callin did sign the documents "A.C. Callin, architect." One could guess that Callin was one of any number of master carpenters with good drafting skills that were drawn to the gas belt region during this period of great growth.

Queen Anne Houses in Summitville / Van Buren Township

Very likely, more houses or perhaps even commercial buildings of the level of design and integrity of the Thawley House once stood in the Summitville area. Today, there are few comparable Queen Anne houses to the Thawley House.

¹³ McAlester, Virginia & Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 1996. p. 239.

¹⁴ The McAlesters consider this to be one of the most popular shape subtypes of the Queen Anne house; according to them more than half of all remaining Queen Anne houses in the U.S. were built in this general type. See McAlester, pp. 262-263.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 13

Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

The house at 705 E. Lake Street, c.1890, was comparable to the Thawley House. 705 E. Lake was identified in the 1984 Madison County Interim Report (site 00040). At the time of the report, this house had already been covered in aluminum siding, but retained a wrap around porch and basic Queen Anne massing. It has since been altered further, including enclosures to the wrap around porch and additions.

Another once-comparable house to the Thawley Residence is located at 1700 N (site 00021). This c.1897-98 house with adjacent farm buildings has similar massing to the Thawley House but had been covered in asbestos shingles in the 1940s. Subsequent alterations after 1984 have impacted the integrity of the home. The porch has been enclosed, interior alterations include changing room configurations and loss of some woodwork. Others identified in the 1984 report have been demolished, such as a vernacular Queen Anne house that once stood at 1800 N / 125 E.

Within Summitville itself, thirty sites total met the criteria for basic recordation in the 1984 inventory. Each site had either historical or architectural significance to the history of the community. Of these thirty, only six were rated *notable*, while the other were given the threshold designation of *contributing*. Also of these thirty, fifteen were houses that showed some influence of the Queen Anne period. Most were vernacular cottages that are of the proper time period (c.1890 – 1900). A few had more pretense to style, but have been altered and retain few overt Queen Anne characteristics. The Thawley House is clearly the most representative and intact example of the style in the town and township.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 14 *Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN*

Section 9 – Bibliography

Callin, A.C. "Specifications and plans for the Thawley House." Handwritten manuscript and drawings, collection of Virginia (Allen) Shields.

Forkner, Dyson L. *History of Madison County, Vol. I*. Chicago & New York: Lewis Publishing Co., 1914.

Forkner, John L., and Byron H. Dyson. *History of Madison County, Indiana*. Anderson, IN, 1897.

Glass, James A. "The Gas Boom of East Central Indiana," *Indiana Magazine of History*, Vol. XCVI, No. 4, December, 2000.

Glass, James A. and David Kohrman. *The Gas Boom in East Central Indiana* (Images of America series). Chicago: Arcadia Publishing, 2005.

Hardesty, John O. *The City of Anderson, Indiana, Illustrated*. Anderson, IN: The Benham Printery, 1900. reprinted Mt. Vernon, IN: Windmill Publications, Inc., 1990.

Helm, T. B. *Combined 1880 History of Madison County, Indiana and 1901 Atlas and Directory*. Chicago, IL: Kingman Bros., 1880.

"Historic 8th St.," Indiana Room, vertical file 18-3, Anderson Public Library, Anderson, Indiana.

Indiana, Indiana Department of Natural Resources & Historic Landmarks Foundation of. *Indiana Historic Sites & Structures Inventory: Madison County Interim Report*. 1984.

"Jos. B. Thawley Answers Call of Grim Reaper," *Summitville Sun*, Vol. XIII, no. 26, May 12, 1932, p. 1.

McAlester, Virginia & Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 1996.

Madison County Historical Society, Anderson, Indiana; "The Anderson Historic West 8th Street Walking Tour" brochure.

Summitville City Directory, 1906-07. Collection of Virginia (Allen) Shields. (date of publication is assumed from contents. No date printed.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 & 10 Page 15 *Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN*

Summitville High School Annual, 1905. Collection of Virginia (Allen) Shields.

Thawley Family Bible, including handwritten notes on family births, deaths and marriages.
Collection of Virginia (Allen) Shields.

Unknown paper. "Thawley Rites at Summitville Tuesday at 2." (Obit of J.B. Thawley)

Whiffen, Marcus. *American Architecture Since 1780, A Guide to the Styles*. Cambridge, MA:
MIT Press, 1969.

Section 10 – Geographical Data – Verbal Boundary Description

The property is located on Lot 1 of Section 5 of the A.M. Williams addition of Summitville, IN.¹⁵ Start at a point where the southwest corner of the brick retaining wall around the property at the corner of East North Main Street and East Washington Streets. Proceed east along said retaining wall past the concrete stairs to the eastern most edge of the southern property line. Continue north along the eastern most property line to the northeastern edge of lot 1. Travel west along the northern most edge of said lot to the northwestern most point of the property line where the retaining wall previously discussed restarts. Continue south along the brick retaining wall past the concrete stairs to the point of origin.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries listed above are the house's original lot boundaries.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 16 *Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN*

Photographs

All photographs are of the Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Summitville, Madison County, Indiana, 300 East North Main Street and were taken in the winter of 2007 by Virginia M. Smith.

1. Front (west) elevation, camera facing east (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0001)
2. Detail of shingles on gables of west façade, camera facing east
(IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0002)
3. Detail of front porch, camera facing northeast (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0003)
4. Side (south) elevation, camera facing north (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0004)
5. Rear (east) elevation, camera facing west (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0005)
6. Perspective of rear and side (north) elevation, camera facing southwest
(IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0006)
7. Front entrance hall, camera facing east (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0007)
8. Front parlor, camera facing southeast (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0008)
9. West living room wall, camera facing west (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0009)
10. Fireplace in living room, camera facing northeast (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0010)
11. Second parlor, camera facing northeast, (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0011)
12. Dining room, camera facing NE (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0012)
13. Original built-in cabinet in kitchen, camera facing northwest
(IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0013)
14. Cellar door in rear porch, camera facing south (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0014)
15. Detail of staircase, camera facing south (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0015)
16. Upstairs hallway, camera facing west (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0016)
17. Original gas lamp, camera facing north (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0017)
18. Upstairs hallway, camera facing northeast (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0018)
19. Front bedroom, camera facing northwest (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0019)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 17 *Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN*

- 20. Baseboard detail, camera facing northeast (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0020)
- 21. Bathroom, camera facing northeast (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0021)
- 22. Storage room, camera facing east (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0022)
- 23. Rear bedroom, camera facing southwest (IN_MadisonCounty_ThawleyHouse_0023)

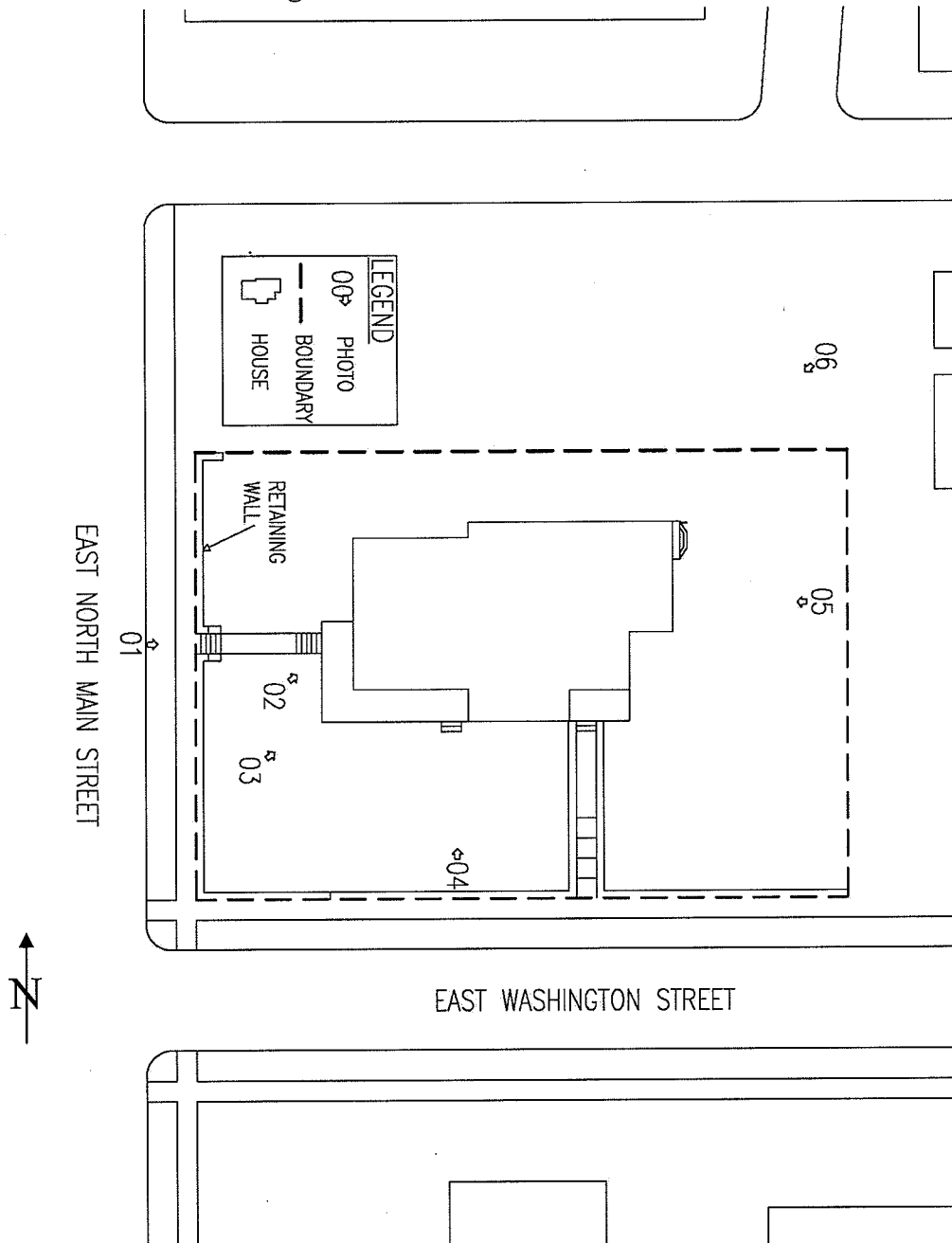
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 17

Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

Site Plan & Photo Log



Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

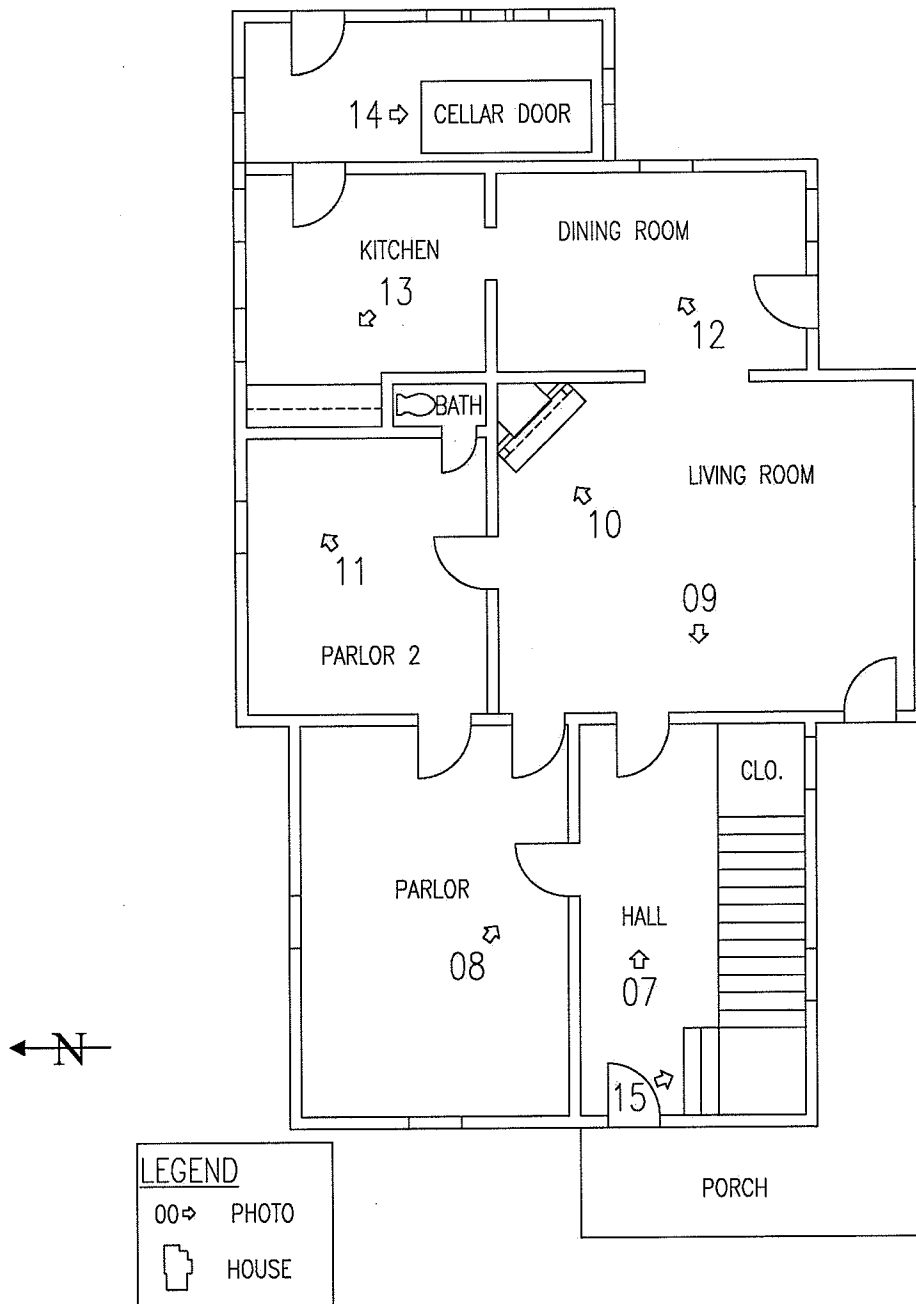
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 18

Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

First Floor Plan & Photo Log



Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

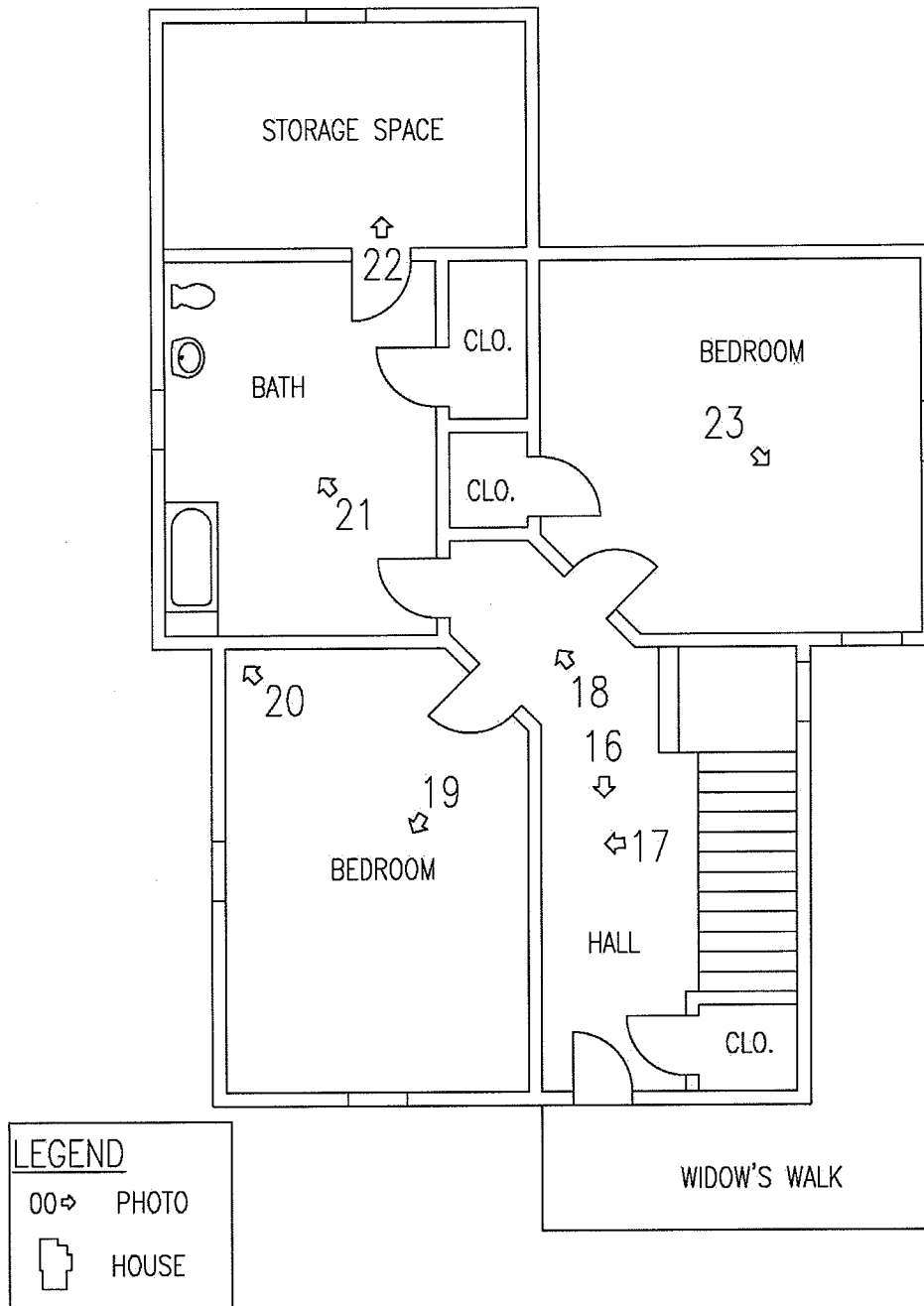
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 19

Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN

Second Floor Plan & Photo Log



Joseph B. & Lucinda Thawley House, Madison County, IN



Joseph and Lucinda Thawley House, Madison Co., IN
Above, photo 1, below, photo3



Joseph and Lucinda Thawley House, Madison Co., IN Photo 6



Joseph and Lucinda Thawley House, Madison Co., IN Photo 8



Joseph and Lucinda Thawley House, Madison Co., IN photo 5